

all drug-related episodes occurred among those age 26 to 44.

Thirteen percent of those treated for drug-related problems had used heroin, sometimes in combination with cocaine, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The number of heroin-related episodes rose slightly to 64,000 from those reported in 1993.

"Speed," "crank" and other meth-amphetamine drugs figured in 17,400 cases, a 75 percent increase above the 1993 figure.

"At a time when it appears there is a resurgence in cocaine-related emergency department episodes, we cannot afford to cut prevention and treatment funding," Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala said in a statement.

The most commonly reported motive for drug use was attempted suicide. That was the reason in an estimated 193,000 of the 508,000 episodes, or 38 percent. Dependence on drugs was reported as a motive in 165,000 episodes, or 32 percent, and "recreational use" in 43,000 episodes, or 3 percent.

Other reasons for coming to the hospital included unexpected reactions (66,000 or 13 percent) and seeking detoxification (52,000 or 10 percent). Multiple reasons were listed in some cases.

The federal agency regularly surveys emergency departments of hospitals in its Drug Abuse Warning Network and extrapolates how many such episodes occurred nationally.

Cocaine-related episodes shot up from 29,000 in 1985 to 110,000 in 1989. They dropped in 1990 to 80,000, then increased again to 120,000 in 1992. They leveled off in 1993 at 123,000 before escalating in 1994.

Adults from their mid-twenties to mid-forties had twice as many cocaine-related emergency visits as younger and older adults. Men were more than twice as likely as women to show up with cocaine problems.

Some 40,000 episodes were related to marijuana and hashish, up 39 percent from 1993. The hospital records indicated almost half of these patients also used alcohol and cocaine.

The estimates were based on a survey of 496 hospitals with 24-hour-a-day emergency departments. The government has conducted similar surveys since the late 1970s.

VETERANS AND THE BUDGET

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this week we honor the veterans who have served our country bravely and selflessly. I find it absolutely appalling that as we honor them, the Clinton administration misleads them. It is reprehensible. The Clinton administration has resorted to bogus studies and scare tactics where our veterans are concerned. The Democrats only agenda is to deter the Republican-led Congress from doing what is right, balancing the budget.

The Clinton administration cites flawed studies and spreads misinformation because they have no serious plan of their own. The latest campaign of fear, aimed at veterans, distorts our Medicaid reform using a general study on Medicaid—not a veterans-specific study. In fact, the study did not even use experts in the area of veterans' affairs. The GAO deemed the study questionable after discovering that the Urban Institute had used alternative assumptions or methods for their findings.

The report contains numerous factual errors and conspicuously omits important facts like

veterans spending increasing by \$40 billion over the next 7 years, Medicare spending increasing 54 percent and Medicaid spending increasing by 39 percent.

It really is not surprising that the Clinton administration has resorted to this kind of fearmongering. After all, it was only last week, an adviser to the President was quoted as saying "I subscribe to terror. Terror tends to work because it is so easy to make people hate." A statement like this denotes the true character and the lengths to which the Clinton administration will go to mislead our veterans and the American people.

SUBSTITUTION OF H.R. 671

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on January 25, 1995, I and my good friends, Mr. BILL RICHARDSON, Mr. PAT WILLIAMS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER, and Mr. PETER DEFAZIO, introduced the Indian Federal Recognition Administrative Procedures Act of 1995, H.R. 671, in an effort to create an efficient and fair procedure for extending Federal recognition to Indian tribes. In my remarks at that time, I stated that introduction of the legislation was only the starting point for further discussion and debate and that I looked forward to the advice and input of colleagues, the agency, and tribes.

Mr. Speaker, since January a number of occurrences have provided me with some of the discussion and input that I was looking for. The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing in July on S. 479, a bill very similar to the original H.R. 671. Nonrecognized and recognized tribes, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian organizations, and experts submitted testimony on the bill and the existing recognition process. In addition, the White House has held a number of meetings with nonrecognized tribes so that they could discuss recognition with administration officials. As a direct result of those meetings, the Department of the Interior set up a task force of administration people and representatives of nonrecognized tribes to assist the Department in formulating a position on whether the recognition criteria could be improved. Further, only this month an administrative law judge, in the first challenge to a decision against recognition, has essentially reversed BIA/BAR. In doing so, the ALJ was critical of BAR's methodology and interpretation of their own criteria. The judge's views of the existing criteria can be considered a suggestion that the criteria could be improved.

Mr. Speaker, I have reviewed all of those developments and taken into account the views of the interested parties. As a result, I have modified H.R. 671 to improve both the procedures and the criteria that were in the original bill. The modifications will advance the goals of recognition reform legislation—providing a more objective, consistent, and streamlined standard for acknowledging groups as federally recognized Indian tribes.

Mr. Speaker, I have made the following changes to the original H.R. 671. The procedures under which the independent commission would hear and decide petitions for recognition have been slightly modified. Provisions that would have excluded groups from petitioning for recognition or continuing to seek recognition have been removed. Most importantly, the criteria for recognition have been improved. The improvements take into account the almost unanimous view of the experts and affected tribes that the criteria used in the existing administrative process, which were carried into the original H.R. 671, do not really test whether a group should be recognized or not and unnecessarily burden petitioners and decisionmakers. I believe that it is only through these changes that we will enact a process that is both fair and able to resolve the recognition issue in the timeframe anticipated.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING OLGA AROS

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Olga Aros, the winner of the National Hispanic Corporate Council's [NHCC] Visionary Award, presented to her at the NHCC's 10th anniversary dinner.

Ms. Aros currently works as the staff director for diversity development at McDonald's Corp., where she has the opportunity to lead the corporate efforts to reach out to the Hispanic community. She was one of the original board members of NHCC, and served as its first president. She has tirelessly worked for the advancement of Hispanics, using her positions in marketing, human resources, public affairs, and her community service to promote Hispanic causes. It is safe to say that without the vision and effort of Ms. Aros, the NHCC wouldn't have achieved the great success that it has over the past 10 years. She was a driving force behind the council's inception and its formidable expansion. Its success is a testament to her abilities, and I ask my colleagues to recognize the considerable accomplishments of Ms. Aros.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, because of an unforeseen scheduling conflict, I was not in attendance for one recorded vote, rollcall vote No. 769 on the resolution regarding Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Had I been in attendance, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 769.